

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment For State Prisoners Program

The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) Formula Grant Program assists states and units of local government in developing and implementing residential substance abuse treatment programs within state and local correctional and detention facilities in which prisoners are incarcerated for a period of time sufficient to permit substance abuse treatment. The RSAT Program was created by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Pub.L. 103-322 which amended Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) by adding 42 U.S.C., Section 3796ff.

The state FY 2000 appropriation for Iowa is \$520,237. Current sub-recipients within the state are as follows: the Waterloo Residential Facility; the State Training School in Eldora; the Anamosa State Penitentiary; and Iowa Correctional Institution for Women; and the Fort Dodge Correctional Facility.

Program Purposes

RSAT grant funds are awarded to the states to assist them in implementing and enhancing residential substance abuse programs that provide individual and group treatment activities for offenders in residential facilities operated by state and local correctional agencies. These programs must:

- Last between 6 and 12 months. Each offender must participate in the program for not less than nor more than 12 months, unless he or she drops out or is terminated.
- Be provided in residential treatment facilities set apart from the general correctional population. Set apart means a totally separate facility or a dedicated housing unit within a facility exclusively for use by program participants.
- Focus on the substance abuse problems of the inmate.
- Develop the inmate's cognitive, behavioral, social, vocational, and other skills to solve the substance abuse and related problems.

Eligibility

States may apply for a formula grant award under this program. "State" means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, America Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The award is made to the state office designated under Section 507 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act to administer the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Formula Grant Program. The state office may award subgrants to state agencies and units of local government.

Drug Testing Requirement

Applicant states must agree to implement or continue to require urinalysis and/or other proven reliable forms of drug and alcohol testing of individuals assigned to residential substance abuse treatment programs in correctional facilities. Such testing must include individuals released from residential substance abuse treatment programs who remain in the custody of the state. Grant funds may be used to pay the costs of testing offenders while in a grant-supported program.

Aftercare Requirement

States are required to give preference to subgrant applicants who will provide aftercare services to program participants. Aftercare services should involve coordination between the correctional treatment program and other human service and rehabilitation programs, such as education and job training, parole supervision, halfway houses, and self-help and peer group programs that may aid in rehabilitation. Grant funds may only be used for the residential treatment component.

Coordination Requirement

Corrections-based treatment programs and community-based substance abuse treatment programs are required to work together to place program participants in appropriate community substance abuse treatment when these individuals leave the correctional facility at the end of their sentence or time on parole. Both agencies should work together in developing an individualized plan for community substance abuse treatment for each offender. In designing and implementing the RSAT Program, states are required to ensure coordination between correctional representatives and alcohol and drug abuse agencies at the state and, if appropriate, local levels. States should also coordinate substance abuse and mental health services for dual diagnosed offenders.

Evaluation

Each participating state is required to submit an evaluation report not later than March 1 of each year. The report should describe the activities carried out with formula grant funds during the previous federal fiscal year, the criteria used to assign offenders to the program(s), the impact of such activities in meeting the goals of the program, and the results of any program or project evaluations.